

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 00926 171653Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----171746Z 067970 /43

R 171644Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4770
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 00926

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, PARM, TECH, GW
SUBJECT: BORSIG CASE

REF: (A) BONN 640; (B) STATE 3693; (C) BONN 552

1. ECON/COMM MIN RAISED BORSIG CASE WITH LAUTENSCHLAGER,
ASSISTANT SECRETARY IN FONMIN, ON JANUARY 14, AND
EMPHASIZED THE URGENCY ATTACHED TO A SATISFACTORY
SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM. LAUTENSCHLAGER SAID HE WAS
FULLY AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUBJECT AND CITED

/
EARLIER DISCUSSION BETWEEN VEST AND GERMAN DCM IN
WASHINGTON (REF B). HE REITERATED THAT FRG WOULD DO
EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO SEE THAT THE MATTER WAS RESOLVED
TO OUR SATISFACTION.

2. LAUTENSCHLAGER CONFIRMED THERE WAS A LEGAL PROBLEM
CONCERNING THE LANGUAGE OF THE EXISTING EXPORT
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REGULATION. HOWEVER, SINCE IT WILL BE SOME TIME
BEFORE THE COMPRESSORS COULD BE SHIPPED, THE FRG
THOUGHT THIS REGULATION COULD BE CHANGED IN A TIMELY
MANNER, AND THERE WOULD BE A MEETING WITH THE
ECONOMICS MINISTRY NEXT WEEK TO WORK ON THE LEGAL
DETAILS. WE POINTED OUT THAT, LEAVING THE LEGALITIES
ASIDE, THE FIRM INVOLVED MUST BE AWARE OF OUR PROBLEMS

IN THE LIGHT OF THE WAY IN WHICH THE MATTER WAS HANDLED
IN BERLIN. WE EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT THE COMPANY
WOULD, IN SPITE OF THE BERLIN SITUATION, SEEK TO
GET AROUND THE PROBLEM IN A DEVIOUS WAY, WHICH
COULD HARDLY BE HELPFUL TO THE FIRM'S REPUTATION.
LAUTENSCHIAGER ONLY COMMENTED THAT PERHAPS IT WAS TOO
MUCH TO EXPECT A COMMERCIAL FIRM TO BE COMPLETELY
"ETHICAL".

3. WE MENTIONED TO LAUTENSCHIAGER THAT HE WOULD BE
HEARING FROM OTHER EMBASSIES, AND WE WERE LEFT WITH THE
CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT THE FRG WAS MOVING IN THE
RIGHT DIRECTION.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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